

ITapoleon I would most assuredly have resorted to an inno-eent artifice, which I had several times employed, and placed the work of Alfieri on his table open at the page I wished him to read. Alfieri's opinion of the Spanish people was in the end fully verified; and I confess I cannot think without shuddering of the torrents of blood which inundated the Peninsula; and for what ? To make Joseph Bonaparte a King!

The commencement of 1811 was sufficiently favorable to the French arms in Spain, but towards the beginning of March the aspect of affairs changed. The Duke of Belluno, notwithstanding the valor of his troops, was unsuccessful at Chiclanaji and from that day the French army could not make head against the combined forces of England and Portugal. Even Mass&na, notwithstanding the title of Prince of Esslingen (or Essling), which he had won under the walls of Vienna, was no longer "the favorite child of victory" as he had been at Zurich;

Having mentioned Massena I may observe that he did not favor the change of the French Government on the foundation of the Empire. Masse'na loved two things, — glory and money; but as to what is termed honors, he only valued those which resulted from the command of an army; and his recollections all bound him to the Republic, because the Republic recalled to his mind the most brilliant and glorious events of his military career. He was, besides, among the number of the Marshals who wished to see a limit put to the ambition of Bonaparte; and he had assuredly done enough, since the commencement of the wars of the Eepublic, to be permitted to enjoy some repose, which his health at that period required. What could he achieve against the English in Portugal ? The combined forces of England and Portugal daily augmented, while ours diminished. No efforts were spared by England to gain a superiority in the great struggle in which she was engaged; as her money was lavished profusely, her troops paid well wherever they went, and were abundantly supplied with ammunition and provisions : the French army was compelled; though far from possessing such ample means, to

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<sup>1</sup> Barrosa.